Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: David M. Pepper, et al.) RE: Information Disclosure

Statement

) Group: Not yet assigned Serial No.: 10/661,028

) Examiner: Not yet assigned

Filed: September 11, 2003

) Our Ref: B-4077 618504-4

For: "OPTICAL RETRO-REFLECTIVE

APPARATUS"

) Date: November 11, 2003

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria VA, 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the Applicants' duty to disclose information which may be material to the examination of this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that the Examiner consider on the merits the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) before issuing the first Office Action on the merits. We are enclosing herewith a copy of each document listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified).

It should be noted that the above-identified application is related by subject matter to the following U.S. Application(s): 10/690,486, filed October 20, 2003. In addition, the present application has claims that may be considered to be similar to the claims in the applications listed above. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56(a) and M.P.E.P. 2004, paragraph 9, the applicant brings these copending applications to the attention of the Examiner. The Examiner should consider this information during the prosecution of the above-identified application. However, citation of these applications does not constitute an admission that the claims of the present application are substantially similar or similar to those of the applications listed above.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

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The Applicants believe that this IDS is being submitted before the issuance of a first Office Action on the merits and before the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance. Therefore, no official fees should be due; and this IDS should be considered on the merits. If this IDS is being submitted after the issuance of the first Office Action on the merits and before the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, please contact the undersigned to authorize a payment of \$180.00 (or any other required amount), which is the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), if the Examiner believes that such a fee is due in order for this IDS to be considered on the merits.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. (Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.)

The person making this statement is the practitioner who signs below on the basis of information supplied by an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c)) and on the basis of information in the practitioner's file.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450",

on November 11, 2003 by Alexis Karriker.

Respectfully submitted,

Ross A. Schmitt Attorney for Applicant Reg. No. 42,529

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Enclosures: Form PTO-1449 (modified) (1 page)

Copy of documents listed on Form PTO-1449 (modified)

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NOV 1 4 2003 (ModificatomAR Form PTO-1449 ATTY DOCKET NO. U.S. SERIAL NO. 10/661,028 B-4077 618504-4 LIST OF PATENTS AND APPLICANTS David M. Pepper, et al.

PUBLICATIONS STATEMENT

> В1 10/690,486

FILING DATE GROUP September 11, 2003 not yet assigned

ISSUE DATE EXAMINER DOCUMENT NAME CLASS SUB-FILING DATE or 102(e) CLASS INITIAL NUMBER DATE IF APPROPRIATE 5,172,262 359 223 12/1992 Hornbeck 5,808,797 359 572 9/1998 Bloom et al. 359 170 6,154,299 11/2000 Gilbreath et al. 6,455,931 9/2002 Hamilton, Jr. et al. 257 723

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

10/20/2003

DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO

Sayyah et al.

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Biermann, M.L., et al., "Design and Analysis of a Diffraction-Limited Cat's-Eye Retroreflector, "Opt. Eng., Vol. 41, No. 7, pp. 1655-1660 (July 2002).

EXAMINER	DATE_CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609: Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to